

**CONSTITUTION**  
**of the**  
***Students for Common Sense in Government***

Ratified in Full  
13 April 1999

*"If we can prevent the Government from wasting the labors of the people, under the  
pretense of taking care of them, they must become happy."*

*-- Thomas Jefferson*

**Article I**

**Name**

The name of this corporation shall be the North Carolina State University Students for Common Sense in Government, hereafter referred to by full name as above, the Students for Common Sense in Government, the SCSG, or the corporation.

**Article II**

**Mission**

It is the mission of the Students for Common Sense in Government to ensure the elected and appointed officials within North Carolina State University create, promote, and lobby for policies that would prove beneficial to the Student Body. It is the further mission of the Students for Common Sense in Government to serve the Student Body and University community through any public works it deems to be beneficial.

**Article II**

**Purposes**

The purposes of the Students for Common Sense in Government shall be as follows:

- a) Confront the concerns expressed by the Student Body;
- b) Confront the flaws within the University;
- c) Commission research into such problems and divulge information found;
- d) Actively promote alternative public policies that would better serve the Student Body;
- e) Actively publicize actions undertaken, or not undertaken, by the Student Government and other organizations;
- f) Serve the Student Body through various public works and services;
- g) Actively recruit students who possess an interest in fulfilling the stated mission and principles of the Students for Common Sense in Government.

## **Article IV**

### **Officers and Official Responsibilities**

#### *Section A – Offices Defined*

The Students for Common Sense in Government shall maintain the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and other such offices as the Board of Directors prescribes. Not more than one office may be held simultaneously by the same person. Guidelines regarding election, term of office, removal, and filling of vacancies are found in the corporate Bylaws, Article IV.

#### *Section B – President*

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Students for Common Sense in Government and, in general, shall supervise and control all of the business and affairs of the Students for Common Sense in Government. He/she may sign, with the Secretary or any other proper Officer of the Students for Common Sense in Government authorized by the Board of Directors, any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments or documents which the Board of Directors has authorized to be executed; inform each

prospective member of his/her final status in the application process; and he/she shall perform all such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors on occasion.

### *Section C – Vice-President*

In the event of death, resignation, or removal of the President, the person who serves as Vice-President shall assume the office of President until the Board of Directors elects a successor to the President and shall perform all such other duties as on occasion may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

### *Section D – Secretary*

The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors; see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws or as required by law; be custodian of the corporate records and seal; and perform such other duties as on occasion may be assigned to him/her by the President or by the Board of Directors.

### *Section E – Treasurer*

The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds and securities of the Students for Common Sense in Government; receive and give receipts for monies due and payable to the Students for Common Sense in Government and deposit all such monies in the name of the Students for Common Sense in Government in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of the Bylaws; and perform such other duties as on occasion may be assigned to him/her by the President or by the Board of Directors. If required by the Board of Directors, the Treasurer shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of his duties in such sum and with such surety or sureties as the Board of Directors shall determine.

### *Section F – Other Responsibilities*

The duties as assigned above shall be executed without fail. As such, any shortcoming of any Officer shall be rectified by the Board of Directors, other Officers, and the general membership. In addition, any assistance requested by an Officer shall be provided.

Furthermore, should necessary duties arise that are not designated to any specific individual(s), such duties are considered the responsibility of each Director, Officer, and general member of the Students for Common Sense in Government.

## **Article V**

### **General Membership**

#### *Section A – Eligibility for Membership*

No qualifications shall be established for the purpose of admittance into the Students for Common Sense in Government. This clause may not be repealed, nor the Constitution amended in such manner as would contradict this section.

#### *Section B – Procedure for Candidate Selection*

Members of the Students for Common Sense in Government shall actively approach various individuals with regard to the stated mission, purposes, and activities undertaken by the corporation. If such individuals appear to possess an interest in joining the corporation, the member shall provide to him/her an application for admittance established by the Board of Directors, as well as any supporting documentation regarding the corporation available. Upon completion of the application, the prospective member shall return the application to the member who proposed his/her admittance, who shall then forward the completed application to a Director of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consider completed applications, and at such point whereupon deliberation is completed, the Board of Directors may choose to reject the application or interview the prospective member at a time and place convenient to the prospective member. Upon interviewing the prospective member, the Board of Directors shall deliberate upon his/her admittance and, at such point whereupon deliberation is completed, the Board of Directors may choose to reject the applicant or accept them into the general membership of the Students for Common Sense in Government. The President shall notify each prospective member of his/her final status in the selection process.

### *Section C – Annual and Regular Meetings*

The General Membership shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors shall by resolution prescribe. The Board of Directors or General Membership may by resolution prescribe the time and place of such other regular meetings.

### *Section D – Special Meetings*

Special meetings of the General Membership may be called by or at the request of the President or any Director. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the General Membership may fix any reasonable date, hour, and place, either within or without North Carolina, as the date, hour, and place for holding any special meeting of the General Membership called by them.

### *Section E – Notice*

Notice of any special meeting of the General Membership shall be given at least fifteen (15) days previously thereto by written notice delivered personally or sent by mail, telegram, facsimile, or other means of electronic transmission to each Director and Officer at his/her address as shown in the records of the Students for Common Sense in Government. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed, with postage prepaid. If notice be given by telegram, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when the telegram is delivered to the telegraph company. Any Director or Officer may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Director or Officer at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Director or Officer attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. The business to be transacted at, and the purpose of, any special meeting of the General Membership need not be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.

### *Section F – Quorum and Proxies*

A majority of the total number of Directors and Officers in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the General Membership; but, if less than a majority of the Directors and Officers are present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors and Officers present may adjourn the meeting on occasion without further notice. Proxies shall not be permitted without exception.

### *Section G – Manner of Acting*

The act of a majority of the Directors and Officers present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the General Membership, unless the act of a greater number is required by law, this Constitution, or the Bylaws.

### *Section H – Compensation*

Members of the General Membership as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any member of the General Membership from serving the Students for Common Sense in Government in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefor.

### *Section I – Resignation; Removal*

#### **Subsection 1**

Any member of the General Membership may resign from the Students for Common Sense in Government at any time by giving notice of his/her resignation in writing addressed to the President or Secretary of the Students for Common Sense in Government or by presenting his written resignation at an annual, regular, or special meeting of the Board of Directors.

#### **Subsection 2**

Except as otherwise provided by law, at any meeting of the General Membership called expressly for that purpose, any member may be removed, with explicit cause stated in writing, by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the General Membership.

## **Article VI**

### **Amendments to Constitution**

The Constitution may be altered, amended, or repealed and a new Constitution may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors present at any annual, regular, or special meeting, and a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the General Membership if at least fifteen (15) days written notice is given of intention to alter, amend, or repeal the Constitution or to adopt a new Constitution at such meeting.

**BYLAWS**  
**of the**  
***Students for Common Sense in Government***

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The following bylaws shall apply to the Students for Common Sense in Government with regard to the composition and operation of its corporate Board of Directors, and any daily operating procedures provided herein. Other provisions regarding the operation of the corporation are found in the corporate Constitution.

**Article I**  
**Offices**

*Section A – Registered Office*

The Students for Common Sense in Government shall at all times maintain in the State of North Carolina a registered agent, whose residence or business office shall be the registered office of the Students for Common Sense in Government.

*Section B – Other Offices*

The Students for Common Sense in Government may also have such other offices within or without the State of North Carolina as the Board of Directors may, on occasion, designate, and as the business and affairs of the Students for Common Sense in Government may require.

**Article II**  
**Purposes**

*Section A – Nature of Corporation*

The Students for Common Sense in Government is a non-profit corporation formed under North Carolina General Statute 55A-1-40(17), which is organized and shall be operated



in accordance with the meaning and provisions of Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code and the regulations issued thereunder.

### *Section B – Primary Purposes*

The Students for Common Sense in Government is organized for the purposes set forth in its Articles of Incorporation which are filed with the State of North Carolina, as well as set forth in its organizational constitution.

## **Article III**

### **Board of Directors**

### *Section A – General Powers*

The Board of Directors shall have the general power to manage and control the affairs and property of the Students for Common Sense in Government and shall have full power, by majority vote, to adopt rules and regulations governing the action of the Board of Directors.

### *Section B – Number, Election, and Term of Office*

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members. Directors need not be residents of the State of North Carolina. The Board of Directors shall initially be composed of three (3) members: the incorporator, Thomas Gregory Doucette; the organization advisor, Tomás Jesús de la Cruz; and the assistant to the incorporator, Teresa Jenice Moody-Nichols. Election to the Board of Directors shall be by majority vote of the members of the Board of Directors, which shall occur, except in the case of filling vacancies, at each annual meeting thereof. The remaining four (4) initial vacancies shall be filled in this manner. The initial Directors shall hold office until each chooses to resign, or is physically or mentally incapable of fulfilling his/her duties. All other Directors shall hold office for a term of one (1) year and thereafter until his/her successor is duly elected and qualified.

### *Section C – Officers*

The Board of Directors shall defer to the general membership for selection of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and other such officers as it may consider appropriate with such duties as it may prescribe.

### *Section D – Vacancies*

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors prior to the expiration of a term shall be filled by such person as shall be elected by the remaining members of the Board of Directors. A Director so elected to fill a vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired term of his predecessor in office.

### *Section E – Annual and Regular Meetings*

The Board of Directors shall hold an annual meeting at such time and place as the Board of Directors shall by resolution prescribe. The Board of Directors may by resolution prescribe the time and place of such other regular meetings.

### *Section F – Special Meetings*

Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by or at the request of the President, the incorporator, or any two Directors. The person or persons authorized to call special meetings of the Board of Directors may fix any reasonable date, hour, and place, either within or without North Carolina, as the date, hour, and place for holding any special meeting of the Board called by them.

### *Section G – Notice*

Notice of any special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be given at least fifteen (15) days previously thereto by written notice delivered personally or sent by mail, telegram, facsimile, or other means of electronic transmission to each Director at his/her address as shown in the records of the Students for Common Sense in Government. If mailed, such notice shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the United States mail in a sealed envelope so addressed, with postage prepaid. If notice be given by telegram, such

notice shall be deemed to be delivered when the telegram is delivered to the telegraph company. Any Director may waive notice of any meeting. The attendance of a Director at any meeting shall constitute a waiver of notice of such meeting, except where a Director attends a meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business because the meeting is not lawfully called or convened. The business to be transacted at, and the purpose of, any special meeting of the Board of Directors need not be specified in the notice or waiver of notice of such meeting.

#### *Section H – Quorum and Proxies*

A majority of the total number of Directors in office shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors; but, if less than a majority of the Directors are present at said meeting, a majority of the Directors present may adjourn the meeting on occasion without further notice. With exception of the organization advisor, proxies shall not be permitted.

#### *Section I – Manner of Acting*

The act of a majority of the Directors present at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors, unless the act of a greater number is required by law or by these Bylaws.

#### *Section J – Compensation*

Directors as such shall not receive any stated salaries for their services but may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude any Director from serving the Students for Common Sense in Government in any other capacity and receiving compensation therefor.

#### *Section K – Informal Action*

An action may be taken without a meeting of the Directors if a consent in writing setting forth the action so taken shall be signed by all of the Directors.

## *Section L – Resignation; Removal*

### **Subsection 1**

A Director may resign from the Board of Directors at any time by giving notice of his/her resignation in writing addressed to the President or Secretary of the Students for Common Sense in Government or by presenting his written resignation at an annual, regular, or special meeting of the Board of Directors.

### **Subsection 2**

Except as otherwise provided by law, at any meeting of the Board of the Directors called expressly for that purpose, any Director, except the incorporator, may be removed, with explicit cause stated in writing, by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors then in office. Furthermore, except as otherwise provided by law, at any meeting of the general membership called expressly for that purpose, any Director, except the incorporator, may be removed, with explicit cause stated in writing, by the vote of three-fourths (3/4) of the general membership.

## **Article IV**

### **Regular/Standing Committees**

#### *Section A – Purposes*

The Board of Directors may establish such regular committees to assist it in the performance of its duties as it considers appropriate. Each regular committee shall exist until dissolved by resolution of the Board of Directors, approved by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the general membership.

#### *Section B – Number, Election, and Term of Office*

The number of members of each regular committee shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Members of each regular committee shall be elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, with approval of the President, and shall serve until

resignation or removal by the President or the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors.

### *Section C – Officers*

The President may designate from among the members of each regular committee a Chairman and Vice Chairman of such committee, and such other officers as the President may determine. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and any other officers of each such committee shall have such duties as the President prescribes.

### *Section D – Vacancies*

Vacancies in the membership of any regular committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors with approval of the President.

### *Section E – Quorum*

Unless otherwise provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors designating a regular committee, a majority of the whole committee shall constitute a quorum and the act of a majority of the members present at the meeting at which quorum is present shall be the act of the committee.

### *Section F – Rules*

Each regular committee may adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with the Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

### *Section G – Powers*

Each regular committee shall have such powers as the Board of Directors may grant it consistent with law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution, and the Bylaws.

## **Article V**

### **Special/Ad hoc Committees**

### *Section A – Purposes*

The Board of Directors may establish such special committees to assist it in the performance of its duties as it considers appropriate. Each special committee shall exist for a time period as provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors designating a committee.

### *Section B – Number, Election, and Term of Office*

The number of members of each special committee shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Members of each special committee shall be elected by the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, with approval of the President, and shall serve until resignation, removal by the President or the affirmative vote of a majority of the Board of Directors, or until the designated time period of the special committee expires.

### *Section C – Officers*

The President may designate from among the members of each special committee a Chairman and Vice Chairman of such committee, and such other officers as the President may determine. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and any other officers of each such committee shall have such duties as the President prescribes.

### *Section D – Vacancies*

Vacancies in the membership of any special committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors with approval of the President.

### *Section E – Quorum*

Unless otherwise provided in the resolution of the Board of Directors designating a special committee, a majority of the whole committee shall constitute a quorum and the act of a majority of the members present at the meeting at which quorum is present shall be the act of the committee.

### *Section F – Rules*

Each special committee may adopt rules for its own government not inconsistent with the Bylaws or with rules adopted by the Board of Directors.

### *Section G – Powers*

Each special committee shall have such powers as the Board of Directors may grant it consistent with law, the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution, and the Bylaws.

## **Article VI**

### **Officers**

### *Section A – Officers*

The Officers of the Students for Common Sense in Government shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and such other Officers as may be elected in accordance with the provisions of this Article. Not more than one office may be held simultaneously by the same person.

### *Section B – Election and Term of Office*

The Officers of the Students for Common Sense in Government shall be elected by a majority vote of the general membership at the organizational meeting and at every annual meeting of the general membership thereafter, except that new offices may be created and filled at any meeting of the Board of Directors with approval of the President. Each Officer shall hold office for a term of one (1) year and thereafter until his/her successor shall have been duly elected and qualified.

### *Section C – Removal*

Any Officer may be removed upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors, whenever in its judgment the best interests of the Students for Common Sense in Government would be served thereby.

### *Section D – Vacancies*

A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, removal, disqualification or otherwise, may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term with approval of the President. A vacancy in the office of President may be filled by the Board of Directors for the unexpired portion of the term with approval of a majority of the general membership.

## **Article VII**

### **Contracts, Checks, Deposits and Funds**

#### *Section A – Contracts*

The Board of Directors may authorize any Officer or Officers, agent or agents of the Students for Common Sense in Government, in addition to or in place of the Officers so authorized by the Bylaws, to enter into a contract or execute and deliver any instrument or document in the name and on behalf of the Students for Common Sense in Government, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances.

#### *Section B – Checks, Drafts, and Similar Documents*

All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued in the name of the Students for Common Sense in Government, shall be signed by such Officer or Officers and/or agent or agents of the Students for Common Sense in Government and in such manner as shall on occasion be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors.

#### *Section C – Deposits*

All funds of the Students for Common Sense in Government shall be deposited on occasion to the credit of the Students for Common Sense in Government in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select.



*Section D – Gifts and Contributions*

The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Students for Common Sense in Government any contribution, gift, bequest, or device for the general purposes or for any special purpose of the Students for Common Sense in Government. Such contributions, gifts, bequests, or devices shall be in conformity with the laws of the United States, the State of North Carolina, and any other relevant jurisdiction.

**Article VIII**  
**Books and Records**

The Students for Common Sense in Government shall keep correct and complete books and records of account and also shall keep minutes of the proceedings of its Board of Directors, general assembly, and committees having any of the authority of the Board of Directors.

**Article IX**  
**Fiscal Year**

The fiscal year of the Students for Common Sense in Government shall begin on the first day of May and end on the last day of April in each year.

**Article X**  
**Waiver of Notice**

Whenever any notice is required to be given under the provisions of the law of North Carolina or under the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, the Constitution, or the Bylaws of the Students for Common Sense in Government, a waiver thereof in writing

signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice.

## **Article XI**

### **Amendments to Bylaws**

The Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed and new Bylaws may be adopted by majority vote of the Board of Directors present at any annual, regular, or special meeting, if at least fifteen (15) days written notice is given of intention to alter, amend, or repeal the Bylaws or to adopt new Bylaws at such meeting. Such changes shall take effect upon two-thirds (2/3) approval of the general membership at its next meeting following the meeting of the Board of Directors where such changes were made.

**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

April 26, 1999

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c/o Students for Common Sense in Government  
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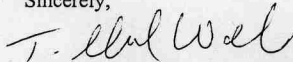
We have reviewed your organization's constitution and officers list and everything seems to be in proper order. You are now a registered student organization at North Carolina State University entitled to all privileges accorded by that status.

Understand that this registration in no way gives the University or Student Government responsibility for any financial liability that may be incurred by your group. Your status does, however, give you the opportunity to approach the Student Senate with a request for funds and gives you certain on-campus solicitation privileges. Additionally, this status enables you to link your student organization's homepage to the University's Web, and to access the services provided by the Student Organization Resource Center.

Please be aware that we ask each student organization to update its file whenever there is a change of officers and at the beginning of each school year. Failure to do so will result in a loss of registration.

We look forward to working with you. Good luck with your new group.

Sincerely,



T. Michael Wallace  
Coordinator, Student Organization Resources

cc: Jenny Chang, Student Government  
Randy Colby, Reservations, Talley Student Center  
Gina Barrow, Registration and Records  
Harry Nicholas, Computing Center  
Allison Trabucco, Student Development